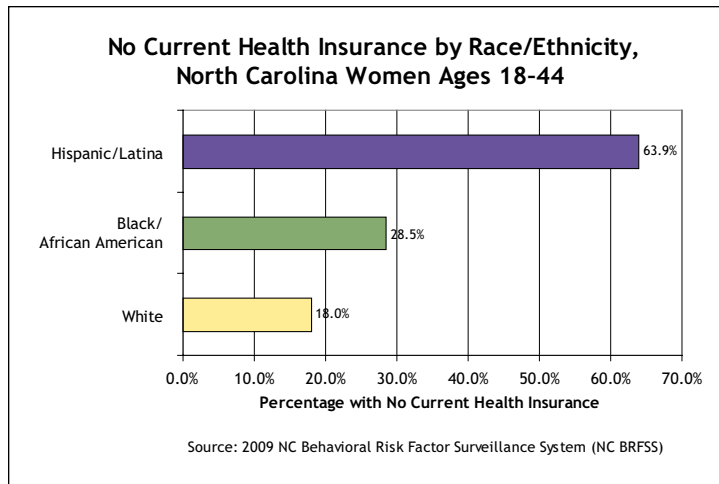


Health Insurance



Lack of health insurance plays a major role in limiting access to medical care. Overall, a quarter of North Carolina women in this age group (24.5%) do not have health care insurance. Racial and ethnic disparities in health insurance coverage exist, with more than 60 percent of Hispanic/Latina and 29 percent of African-American women reporting no health insurance, compared with just 18 percent of

whites.² Among women who just delivered, nearly half (44.5%) reported that they did not have health insurance just before they became pregnant.⁵ Nearly one in three (29%) reported that they have not had a physical or health check-up in the past year.²

Sexually Transmitted Infections

North Carolina women of color suffer a disproportionately high rate of sexually transmitted infections including HIV.⁶ Women who suffer from these infections and become pregnant place themselves and their babies at risk for complications including prematurity, low birth weight, long-term disability, and death.

2009 Rate of Sexually Transmitted Infections for Women Ages 18–44	
	Case Rate per 100,000
Chlamydia	1671.1
Gonorrhea	407.6
Living with HIV/AIDS	330.5
Syphilis (PSEL)	11.0
Source: North Carolina HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch	

